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University Libraries

Fall 2018

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University of Denver | University Libraries | Fall Quarter 2018 Issue 11 | Peggy Keeran, Editor

From the Deans' Suite

A Word from the Dean & Director

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Last month, I was invited to speak in Calgary at the Designing Libraries Conference, which is an annual meeting about library buildings and spaces. It is attended by librarians and architects who are planning renovations or considering new construction. I was part of a panel of librarians who were asked to speak about the experience of working with non-library partners in the same building. Surprisingly, even five years after we've opened the Anderson Academic Commons (AAC), we seem to be further along than most (or maybe all) other academic libraries in this regard.

The crowded Penrose Library was transformed into the AAC by moving books and journals to offsite storage – something that was difficult for all of us. This allowed us to bring more light into the building and create more study, teaching, meeting, and service spaces. Those spaces are routinely packed with students, and the building is a campus highlight. While the process was difficult, the outcome makes it clear that it was the right choice. None of this is uncommon – a key component of most academic library building projects is to move collections out and people in.

The reaction to my presentation made it clear that our model for combining academic services in the library as intentionally as we did is unusual. A far more typical model is for there to be “tenants” in the library rather than true partners. I've already had several requests for more information from librarians who attended this talk. We are in the process of developing an assessment strategy so that we can understand how well our combined services work and can continually improve.

We also regularly look at the services we offer in the AAC. Based on faculty requests, we worked with IT@DU to create the Video Creation Studio. And we have moved the Prysm video wall that was hidden away downstairs to a more prominent spot in the Front Porch Café, and will be working with faculty to help integrate this tool into teaching and learning.



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University Libraries News

New Technologies in the Library

Video Creation Studio

The former Visualization Center on the lower level of the library has been transformed into the Video Creation Studio, where faculty and staff can be trained and guided to create video content that can be used for coursework, perspective students, or even presentation rehearsals. Some possible applications include welcome videos, short lectures, clinical technique demonstrations, interviews, small focus group recordings, and more.

If you are interested in learning more about this studio, visit the [Video Creation Studio](#) website (which also contains examples of videos created in the studio), or contact the Digital Media Services department by email at AAC-DMC@du.edu, or by phone at 303-871-3670.

The Prysm Wall

The Prysm wall, a large high-resolution interactive display, located in the AAC's Front Porch Café, displays works created to take advantage of the wall's technology. Classes from Emergent Digital Practices, from Media, Film, and Journalism Studies, and from other departments will use the wall for teaching, lectures, exhibits, and interactive events. More about [Prysm](#).

If you're interested in using the new technology in your classes, workshops, or possible events, contact Carrie Forbes, carrie.forbes@du.edu, or Elia Trucks, elia.trucks@du.edu.



Installments – A New Newsletter



Installments is a new library newsletter for students, faculty, staff, and the DU community. These newsletters are hung in the restroom stalls where a captive audience can learn about library services and resources, upcoming events, and tips and tricks for newcomers. *Installments* is published twice per quarter, and back issues can be found in the Research Guide here: <http://libguides.du.edu/installments>.

Contact the editor, Elia Trucks, at elia.trucks@du.edu for more information, story ideas, or questions.

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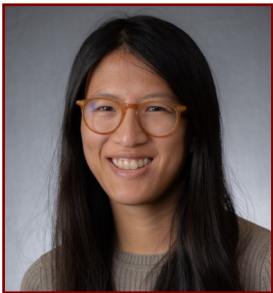
University Libraries News

Meet our New Faculty Members!



Karl Pettitt, Coordinator of Cataloging & Metadata Services

Karl Pettitt joined the University Libraries in 2017 as the new Coordinator of Cataloging and Metadata Services. Prior to coming to DU, Karl worked at the Northern Illinois University Law Library as the Technical Services Librarian and at Wheaton College as the Catalog Librarian. Karl has a BA in Religion from Whitworth University, a MA in History of Christianity from Wheaton College, and a MLIS from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. His research interests include the education of librarians, the history of libraries and librarianship, and the impact these people and institutions have had on their communities.



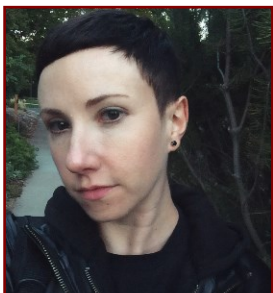
Kim Pham, Information Technologies Librarian

Kim Pham joined the University Libraries as the Information Technologies Librarian in the Library Technology Services department in July 2018. In her role, she coordinates the development and operations of the software and systems managed by the library. Previously, she worked as the Digital Projects & Technologies Librarian at the University of Toronto Scarborough. Kim has a Master of Information degree and a BS in Molecular Biology from the University of Toronto. Her professional and research areas include the development of open standards and open-source technologies in libraries, digital preservation, and the design, scalability, and maintenance of information systems.



Denisse Solis, Residency Librarian

Denisse Solis joined the University Libraries as the Residency Librarian in August. Her position is part of a national initiative of the Association of College and Research Libraries' Diversity Alliance, the intent of which is to diversify the profession of librarianship and, as a result, higher education. She will rotate through various library departments and partner with the Interdisciplinary Research Incubator for the Study of (IN)Equality (IRISE) on specific projects. Denisse comes from Florida International University in Miami, Florida where she worked as a reference librarian. Denisse holds a BA in both History and Art History from Florida International University and a MLIS from Kent State University. Denisse is also a Spanish speaker, which has inspired her research on language demographics in librarianship.



Shannon Tharp, Collections & Content Management Librarian

Shannon Tharp joined the University Libraries as Collections & Content Management Librarian in February 2018. Before coming to DU, Shannon worked at the University of Wyoming as a Collection Development Librarian. She is interested in the process of building unique collections, library activism, and creativity in librarianship. She is also the author of two collections of poetry, and most recently she co-edited *Poet-Librarians in the Library of Babel: Innovative Meditations on Librarianship* (Library Juice Press, 2018). Shannon holds a BA in Writing and Journalism from Drake University, and a MLIS and MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Washington.

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Collections

New Streaming Media Platforms

Since the Fall 2017 installment of *The Liaison Connection*, DU Libraries has acquired licensed access to a number of streaming video resources.

One of our most recent streaming video acquisitions, [*Film Platform*](#), offers award-winning documentaries of social, political, and cultural importance from around the world. Documentaries screened at Sundance Film Festival, Berlinale, and TIFF (to name only a few festivals) are available through *Film Platform*, while Participant Media—the company that recently produced [*RBG*](#) and [*3 1/2 Minutes, Ten Bullets*](#)—now has its own collection within *Film Platform*. Over 330 films are currently available via *Film Platform*; as you might imagine, that number is set to grow. To access *Film Platform*, visit the [Libraries' A-Z Databases](#), click on F listings, and scroll to Film Platform.



SOCIALISM ON FILM THE COLD WAR AND INTERNATIONAL PROPAGANDA

Another of our streaming video resources, [*Socialism on Film: The Cold War and International Propaganda*](#), was recently updated to include newsreels and cinemagazines from publications such as *USSR Today*, *China Today*, and *GDR Magazine*. Socialism on Film's content spans the twentieth century and comprises a collection of films on war, history, current affairs, culture, and society as seen through the socialist lens. To access Socialism on Film, visit the [Libraries' A-Z Databases](#), click on S listings, and scroll to *Socialism on Film: The Cold War and International Propaganda*.

We have two new options just added to our streaming video offerings: [*BBC Landmark Video Collection*](#) and [*Filmakers Library Online*](#). The *BBC Landmark Video Collection* includes [*The Blue Planet I*](#) and [*II*](#), along with a number of [*Planet Earth*](#) episodes and a trove of other BBC video. *Filmakers Library Online* features nearly 1,700 documentaries from distributors such as [*Oscilloscope Pictures*](#), [*First Run Features*](#), and [*Point du Jour International*](#) (among many others).

We anticipate that the coming year will see notable additions to our streaming video collections, and we encourage you to explore those collections' content.

Shannon Tharp
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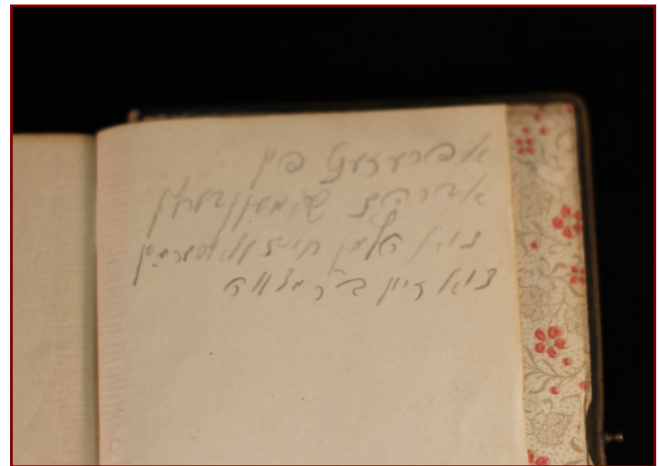
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Collections

Exciting New Acquisition for the Beck Archives: Nineteenth-Century Prayer Book

The Beck Archives of Rocky Mountain Jewish History, part of Special Collections in the University Libraries, recently acquired a lovely Hebrew prayer book that was printed in Vienna in 1857. The volume has been in the donor's family since the family emigrated from Germany to the United States during the 1860s. They first resided in New York, then Pennsylvania, and later moved to Denver.

The prayer book, titled *The Form of Daily Prayers: According to the Custom of the German and Polish Jews*, was published in Europe for an American audience. It offered the liturgy in both Hebrew and English for those who were not fluent in the former language. Although the publication was very commonly found in the United States in the late nineteenth century, the cover of this edition is unusual. This prayer book is bound in blue, white, and ivory enamel and trimmed in brass with a brass clasp. The end sheets are decorated in a red and gold floral pattern. It is likely that this beautiful copy was part of a limited edition of the prayer books that was intended to be used as gifts. This is supported by the inscription in the front of the book that is Yiddish written in Hebraic script. It reads: "A Present from Avraham Shimon Berlin to Talman Chayim Vasserman On his Bar Mitzvah."



The prayer book serves as a reminder that, although most of the early German immigrants quickly acculturated to their new country, Jewish religious practice was still dear to many of them. Even though a Jewish presence in America goes back to colonial times, Jewish immigrants began arriving in the United States in significant numbers to seek religious freedom and economic opportunity after the failed European revolutions of 1848. By 1880, there were about 250,000 Jews in the United States, largely of Jewish German extraction. Beginning in the 1880s and through the restrictive Johnson Immigration Act of 1925, they were joined by another approximately 2.3 million Jews, most from Eastern Europe, who fled deadly pogroms and dire poverty in Russia and Poland to make their way to "The Golden Land" of America.

Dr. Jeanne Abrams

Curator, Beck Archives

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Research and Instruction

Robert Glen Bogner Award for Innovation in Archival Research 2018 – 2019 Academic Year

Overview

The Robert Glen Bogner Award for Innovation in Archival Research is intended to encourage use of primary sources in undergraduate research projects conducted in disciplines not traditionally associated with archives or special collections, such as the sciences, engineering, business, law, etc. Projects may have a variety of presentations: papers, exhibits, or other innovative means of conveying knowledge.

Applicants are expected to share findings on social media platforms (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, etc.) and winners' presentation materials will be published on the Libraries' digital collections platforms and social media platforms. The Libraries will host a celebration honoring the winning project.

Nomination & Selection Process

Eligible projects may take place in courses held during either the autumn or winter quarter of the 2018-2019 academic year. Students or faculty may nominate undergraduate projects that contribute to the understanding of a topic, discipline, or the object or collection used in the project.

A committee of faculty will choose the awardee(s), and an annual celebration of applicants and winner(s) will be hosted by University Libraries, and the award winner will be announced in the spring 2019 quarter.

Submission should include: the paper or project as submitted, the assignment as handed/described to students in the course, and the course syllabus. The nominator should include a brief (250 word) explanation as to why the project merits the award.

Award Money

Winner(s) will receive \$2,000 in award money, to be granted to the project(s) on the basis of the strength of intellectual contribution and creativity in presentation. The faculty member associated with the winning project will receive an award of \$500.

Contact

Nominations and questions should be directed to Curator of Special Collections and Archives, Kate Crowe (katherine.crowe@du.edu, 303-871-7944).

Kate Crowe
Curator of Special Collections and Archives
Katherine.Crowe@du.edu

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Research and Instruction

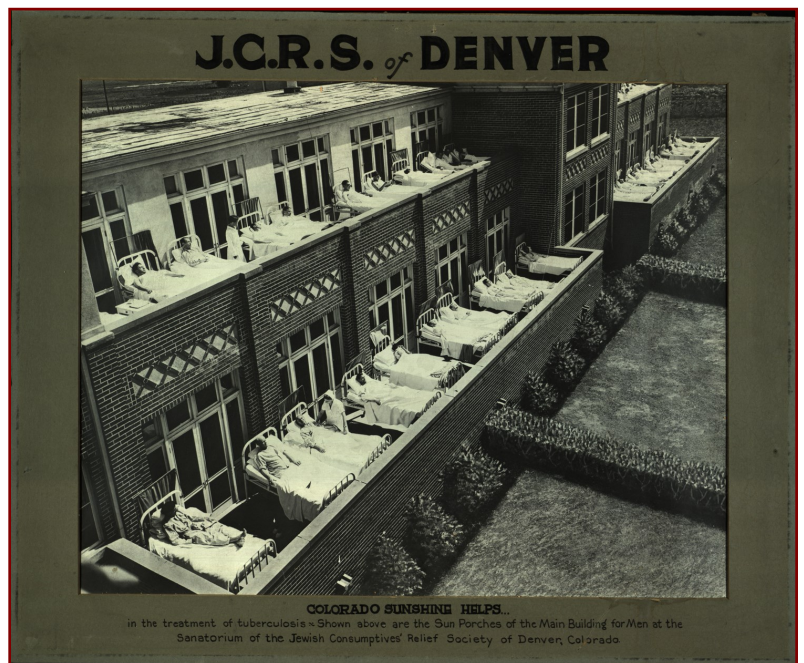
University Librarians Win Primary Source Award for Teaching

At its annual forum in Chicago last June, the [Center for Research Libraries](#) awarded four of our University Libraries' faculty its [2018 Primary Source Award for Teaching](#). Professors Peggy Keeran, Jeanne Abrams, Jenny Bowers, and Kate Crowe were recognized for their "vision and creativity" in developing "a new teaching model stressing the value of primary sources in research for first-year seminars and upper division courses." Their work, entitled *Unmediated Archives: Creating an Immersive Experience for Undergraduate Students Across the Disciplines*, integrates both digital and physical primary source research into many courses across the university. Hands-on work in the archives includes:

- students examining university records of their DU predecessors who were WWI veterans, including letters from the front and digitized propaganda posters;
- 19th century maps and controversial depictions of Native Americans in the photography of Edward S. Curtis; diaries, passports, and personal records of Jewish holocaust survivors;
- 20th century DU student newspapers, yearbooks, and freshmen handbooks that yield insights into the history of the student experience and social inequalities as they have persisted and changed over time;
- and even historical cookbooks, which allow students to explore gender, domesticity, and the relationship between agriculture and society.

Keeran, Abrams, Bowers, and Crowe do not do this alone, of course. Faculty members in History, Sociology, the Writing Program and other departments have worked collaboratively with our librarians to construct the assignments that create these experiences for our students. Their teaching and curatorship also relies on the oft-unsung work of the Libraries staff who acquire, describe and preserve these materials, as well as those who create the wonderful spaces in which our undergraduates learn and grow through these experiences.

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"Jewish Consumptives Relief Society patients undergoing heliotherapy for tuberculosis, Denver," c. 1930s. Courtesy of University of Denver Beck Archives.

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Research and Instruction

University Librarians Win Primary Source Award for Teaching (continued from previous page)

The Center for Research Libraries has good reason to award such work. It was founded in 1949 by ten U.S. universities facing a large influx of veterans whose education would be subsidized by the G.I. Bill, and as they were “also responding to the growing demand for political and economic expertise commensurate with the new stature the U.S. had achieved as one of the two dominant world powers after World War II.” This response required research materials, and the “Center was to be the locus wherein those universities could, working together, build and manage shared collections of costly foreign materials that no single university could afford to acquire on its own.”¹ By preserving and providing access to these materials, the Center has ensured invaluable contemporaneous records of historical events inform our understanding of the world, despite massive shifts in society and governance—shifts that always threaten to destroy the historical record. The Center is now a consortium of over 200 members, including DU, whose faculties conduct original research in the humanities and social sciences.



“Students’ Army Training Corps WWI Practices on University of Denver Campus,”
n.d. Courtesy of University of Denver Special Collections and Archives.

Now, in an age where the very nature of truth and fact are debated, and large-scale changes in geo-political thought and action are once again afoot, I cannot imagine a better time for young people to understand the importance of primary sources in the pursuit of knowledge, and for libraries to do what we have always done, and will always do: preserve and provide equal access to the unaltered records of our university, our community, and our world; both for us, and for researchers and students yet to come.

Congrats to Peggy, Jeanne, Jenny and Kate!

Jack Maness

Associate Dean for Scholarly Communication & Collections Services

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¹ Bernard F. Reilly Jr. (2012) “Global Resources: How a Cooperative Collection Development Enterprise Keeps Pace with a Rapidly Changing World,” *Journal of Library Administration*, 52:1, 70-77, DOI: 10.1080/01930826.2011.629961.

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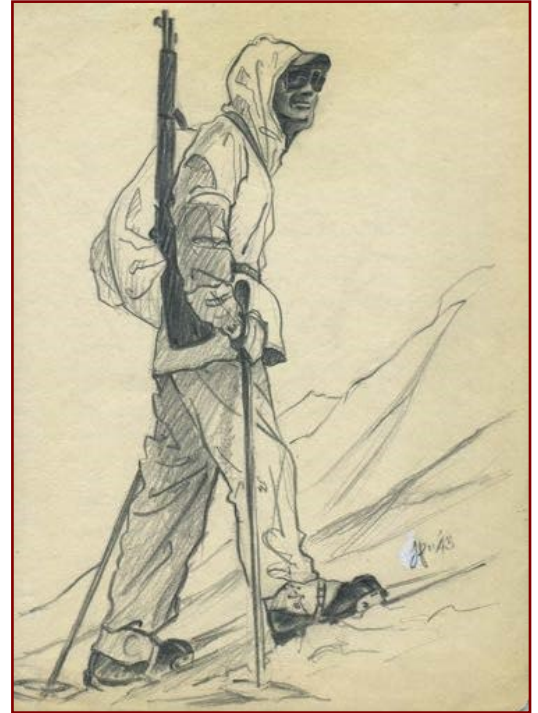
Exhibits and Artwork

Artwork from Italy:

Jacques Parker and the 10th Mountain Division in World War II

The University of Denver Libraries has recently acquired Jacques Parker's drawings from his time in Italy during World War II. After training in Colorado's Camp Hale in 1942, Parker served in Italy as a machine gunner for the 10th Mountain Division ski troops, and would sketch and paint the scenes and soldiers around him. We currently have an exhibit of his work, *A Mountaineer's View*, in the library on the upper level near the Dean's Suite in the NE corner, as well as other items in the cases outside the Gregg Kvistad Special Events room on the main level.

The Jacques Parker collection is important and significant for DU for a variety of reasons. We started the Center for Ski History several years ago with a substantial acquisition of rare books, magazines, memorabilia, and art - over 1600 artifacts of winter sports history. Among other things, this initial purchase included: a history of Lapland (now Finland) by Olaus Magnus which included the first woodcut of skiing warfare (1567); full runs of almost every Western European and North American ski magazine; and a number of other artifacts of winter sports culture from before the turn of the twentieth century. Now, with the acquisition of Jacques Parker's artwork from his time in Italy with the 10th Mountain Division, we've not only brought the collection more solidly into the 20th century, we've also been able to honor one of the last living veterans of this singular company with an exhibition that befits both his service and his artistry - which is even more noteworthy for the difficult circumstances under which he captured these scenes of the World War II.



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